

# Homebush Boys High School

## P & C Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**Meeting opened:** 7.15pm

### **Presidents Welcome:**

In the absence of Simone Burton tonight, Vice President Nick Miller chaired the meeting and welcomed the P & C members together with introducing Mr. Chris Halkidis, HBHS Maths Dept and Staff Teachers Federation Representative, who spoke on behalf of the Teachers Federation on the new changes to Public Education, 'Local Schools, Local Decisions' charter. Currently, our school is guaranteed a set number of teachers and support staff based on schools student enrolments, subject choices and special needs. This is known as Staffing Entitlements. The NSW State Government's 'Local Schools, Local Decisions' policy will remove this entitlement. Instead, our school will be given a staffing budget to employ all staff, not just teachers. Chris distributed a booklet titled 'Putting Students First', which can be sourced on the website [www.puttingstudentsfirst.org.au](http://www.puttingstudentsfirst.org.au) and he put across the main concerns of teachers which included importantly, the funding of staff. The Federation is concerned that experience may make way for quantity and experienced staff on a higher wage bracket may be replaced by say, two junior teachers, thus effectively getting more 'bang for the buck' but ineffectively, as the Teachers Federation sees, losing valuable teaching experience. The upside to the 'Local Schools, Local Decisions' charter is that principals will have more power to employ teachers and tradespeople from the local community and have more decision making powers in their schools wellbeing but this also puts a lot of extra pressure on our already overburdened principals and executive staff members.

The Teachers Federation is in the process of taking this dispute to the High Court to make changes to the legislation as it stands. They are asking the Government to sign the 'Putting Students First Charter' to guarantee that there will be no further cuts to school funding and no loss of positions. The Teachers Federation needs parents help to ensure that this charter protects teachers and students alike. Please go to the website for further information.

The P & C members asked Chris many questions regarding this matter and it was obvious that another meeting on this matter will be needed as the decision unfolds. Our grateful thanks go to Chris Halkidis for coming along to clarify the Teachers Federation situation and to answer at least some of our many questions.

**Attendance:** As per record book

**Apologies:** Simone Burton, Catherine Lea, Cheryl Miller

**Minutes Previous Meeting:** One change noted – Berella PS should read Berala PS. Accepted Simon Ford/Seconded Jeff Mallia

**Business Arising:** School Contribution Letter – these have been sent out to parents.  
Reminder about HBHS Clean Up Day is on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

**Correspondence In:** Nil

**Correspondence Out:** School Contribution letter

**Treasurer's Report:** Nil

### **Principal's Report:**

1. Graduation – The Year 12 Graduation day is on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. A musical performance will be followed by the official presentation then lunch on the lawn prepared by the hospitality boys.
2. Staff – Two new teachers will be joining staff later this year replacing Ms McIntyre (Social Science) and Ms Tsouloukidis (History)
3. HSC Prep – The boys are now preparing for their final exams in October
4. Clean Up Day reminder – Sat 13<sup>th</sup> October from 1.00pm. Sausage sizzle to follow
5. HBHS IMP – Tracy Burjan is working hard with our orchestra preparing for the 'Directors Choice' musical competition coming up in November involving other schools in the area. Mr Jurd noted that Tracy's contribution to our school and the program has been outstanding.
6. Prefect Elections – The list of nominees was extensive and the Prefects for 2013 have been selected. Scott Worthington is School Captain; Perrin Tasker is Vice Captain and at the recent Prefect Camp Nayan Bhathela was selected as Senior Prefect. Well done to all those boys selected by your peers to represent the school. Mr Khurshed has taken on the roll as our 2013 Prefect Staff co-ordinator.
7. Letter of Request – The P & C Special Contribution letter has been sent out to parents.
8. Open Day – Year 7 Orientation Day will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012. The P & C will have a panel of parents ready to answer parent's questions. This matter will be further discussed at the October meeting.
9. Traffic Management in McKenzie Street – Strathfield Council are working with HBHS to monitor and improve the busy traffic situation in McKenzie Street which runs along the side of the school.

**School Council Report:** Simon Ford, President of the School Council gave a brief overview of the recent meeting, in particular, the Behavioural Management documents that Ms Dwyer submitted at that meeting.

### **General Business:**

School Safely – A further discussion took place on traffic issues in McKenzie Street and around the major school roads such as Parramatta Road. Ms Dwyer advised the meeting that School Safely is discussed with the boys constantly. This is obviously something that all parents are concerned about.

Citizenship Ceremony- Fiona gave an overview of the recent ceremony on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2012. Thank you to Year 12 students Aaron Park, Clinton Cheung, William Tran and Jason Sung for their help on the night and a very big thank you to those parents who support the ceremony with food and money. Go to the school website to see the article and photos.

**Meeting Closed 8.35pm.**

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 - 7.00pm start.** Kim Houhlias will fill in for Fiona Murray as P & C Minute Taker in her absence overseas.